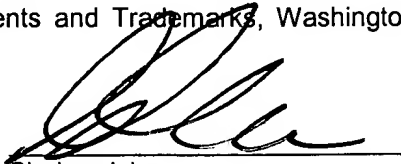


526 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 DEC 2000

Express Mail: Mailing Label Number ⁴⁰⁸¹¹⁵534545 Date of Deposit: December 21, 2000
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 Shahan Islam

3128/FBR

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

-----X
 Applicant: Keith Edwin Curtis et al. :

Serial Not Assigned :
 (National Phase of PCT/AU99/00511): :

Filed: December 21, 2000 :

For: Virtual EPROM simulator apparatus :
 -----X

Examiner: Not Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Assigned

Honorable Commissioner of
 Patents and Trademarks
 Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to an action on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

1. A control apparatus for emulating the physical characteristics of binary data stored in EPROM media for use with a digital processing device, comprising a CPU, operating system, dynamic memory, input/output capability and executable software, including:

- a. a control means;
- b. a non-volatile storage means;